

Message Text

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TAGS:ETRD, BR, CO, ES, HA, HK, JA, KS, MX, RO, RP, TW

SUBJECT: TEXTILE CLOTHING WORKERS DEMONSTRATIONS.

1. MEMBERS OF AMALGAMATED CLOTHING WORKERS OF AMERICA (ACW)

STAGED NATIONWIDE PROTESTS AGAINST APPAREL IMPORTS FROM

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LOW-WAGE COUNTRIES SUCH AS KOREA, TAIWAN, JAPAN, HONG KONG

AND COLOMBIA. KOREA AND TAIWAN WERE REPEATEDLY SINGLED OUT DURING THE DEMONSTRATIONS, WHICH TOOK PLACE IN NEW YORK, PHILADELPHIA, LOS ANGELES, WASHINGTON, D.C., CHICAGO, BOSTON, BALTIMORE, SAN FRANCISCO AND CLEVELAND. NYT NOVEMBER 12 ARTICLE INDICATED ABOUT 100,000 PERSONS THROUGHOUT THE NATION PARTICIPATED IN PROTESTS.

2. IN MOST CITIES, DEMONSTRATORS PICKETED DEPARTMENT STORES WHICH THEY CLAIMED WERE SELLING FOREIGN-MADE CLOTHING. IN NEW YORK, MAYOR BEAME ADDRESSED CROWD AND WAS JOINED BY REPRESENTATIVE PETER PEYSER IN PROMISING TO SEEK SUPPORT OF NEW YORK CONGRESSMEN TO HAVE IMPORT QUOTAS SET IN WASHINGTON. DEMONSTRATORS WERE JOINED IN CHICAGO BY MAYOR DALEY AND IN WASHINGTON BY MAYOR WASHINGTON. SOME PLACARDS IN NEW YORK READ QUOTE DON'T BUY SWEAT SHOP IMPORTS

FROM SOUTH KOREA UNQUOTE AND PAMPHLETS HANDED OUT IN WASHINGTON ALSO REFERRED TO ROK.

3. FYI CONSUMER DEMAND FOR APPAREL HAS FALLEN DRAMATICALLY IN RECENT MONTHS AND US APPAREL INDUSTRY, WHICH WAS ALREADY HAVING DIFFICULTIES, IS STRUGGLING TO SURVIVE. AS A RESULT, POLITICAL PRESSURE FOR TOUGHER RESTRAINTS ON TEXTILES IS BUILDING. END FYI. INGERSOLL

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